

B O R O U G H O F D R O I T W I C H

A N N U A L R E P O R T

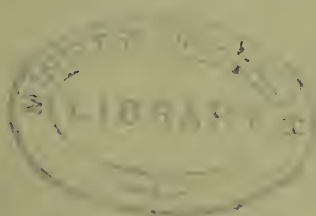
of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and of the

BOROUGH SURVEYOR &
SANITARY INSPECTOR

for the year 1950.



TOWN HALL,
DROITWICH.

August 1951.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Droitwich Town Council.

Your Worship, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my report upon the health of the
Borough for the year 1950.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS.

Area	1735 acres.
Registrar-General's estimate of resident population, mid 1950	6150.
Number of inhabited houses 1950 according to Rate Books	1713.
Rateable Value	£42,843.
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£156.

The following are extracts from the vital statistics
for the year :-

<u>Live Births.</u>	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
Legitimate	125	54	71
Illegitimate	2	NIL	2
Birth rate per 1,000 of resident population			20.65
Birth Rate for England and Wales			15.8

<u>Still Births.</u>	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
Legitimate	4	2	2
Illegitimate	1	1	NIL
The Still Birth Rate per 1,000 population			0.81
The Still Birth Rate per 1,000 England and Wales			0.37

<u>Deaths.</u>	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
	71	38	33
Death rate per 1,000 estimated population			11.54
Death Rate England and Wales			11.6
Deaths from PEURPERAL CAUSES			NIL

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age.

	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
Legitimate	4	3	1
Illegitimate	NIL	NIL	NIL
Infantile Mortality Rate for the year			31.5
Infantile Mortality Rate England and Wales			29.8

Causes of Death.

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	-
" other	1	-
Syphilitic diseases	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-
Meningococcal Infections	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-
Measles	-	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	-	-
" " lung, bronchus	4	-
" " breast	-	-
" " uterus	-	-
Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms	6	2
Leukæmia, aleukemia	-	-
Diabetes	1	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	1	5
Coronary disease, angina	2	3
Hypertension with heart disease	-	-
Other heart diseases	10	5
Other circulatory diseases	-	2
Influenza	-	2
Pneumonia	1	-
Bronchitis	2	3
Other diseases of respiratory system	-	-
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	1
Gastritis, Enteritis, Diarrhoea	-	-
Nephritis and nephrosis	-	2
Hyperplasia of prostate	2	-
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-
Congenital malformations	-	-
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	4	5
Motor vehicle accidents	2	-
All other accidents	-	-
Suicide	-	1
Homicide &c.	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	38	33
	<hr/>	<hr/>

SECTION B.

General provision of Health Services for the area.

1. Under the provisions of the National Health Service Act 1946, the following services are provided by the County Council :-
 - (a) Ambulance Service.
 - (b) Home Nursing Service.

Two District Nurse Midwives work in the Borough of Droitwich. They attend midwifery cases and cases of general illness.
 - (c) Home Help Service.

This Service is administered by the Womens Voluntary Service on behalf of the County Council. It is an emergency service of domestic help in cases of sickness, confinement or accident.
 - (d) Vaccination and Immunisation.

Vaccination and immunisation against diphtheria can be carried out, free of charge, by the patient's own doctor or at one of the County Council's clinics.
 - (e) Care of Expectant and Nursing Mothers and Young Children.

The County Council's Infant Welfare Clinic is held in the Baptist Church Hall, Droitwich, every Tuesday afternoon. Children can be immunised against diphtheria at this Clinic. The following attendances were made during the year :-

Attendances of children under 1 year	-	893.
" " " 1-5 years	-	1,280.

The County Council's Ante-Natal Clinic is held on the second and fourth Wednesday mornings in each month at the Baptist Church Hall, Droitwich. The number of attendances made at this clinic during the year was 227.

2. Hospitals.

This district is served by general hospitals in Worcester and Birmingham. Cases of infectious disease are admitted to Newtown Isolation Hospital, Worcester.

Maternity cases, which cannot be confined at home, are admitted to Maternity Homes at Stourport, Bromsgrove and Evesham.

3. National Assistance Act 1948.(Section 47).

No action was taken by the Council under this Section of the Act during the year. Two cases were dealt with by informal action.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. Water Supply.

The water supply to the Borough, purchased in bulk from the East Worcestershire Waterworks Company, continued to be adequate in both quantity and quality throughout the year. Samples were taken for analysis quarterly and gave satisfactory results. A copy of the County Analyst's report on a sample of this water is given below.

The majority of dwelling houses in the town have a water supply direct from the public mains, with the exception of outlying farms and cottages, which have a supply from wells.

Number of standpipes in the area	12.
Number of wells in the area	16.

Report of County Analyst on sample of Town Water.

<u>Physical Characters.</u>	Clear.
Odour	None.
Deposit	Very slight brown. pH 7.3

Chemical Examination. (Results expressed in parts per 100,000)

Solids in suspension (Dried at 100°C)	Slight Trace.
Solids in Solution (Dried at 180°C)	25
" " " (After ignition)	23
Chlorides calculates as common salt	3
Hardness, Permanent	1
" Temporary	20
" Total	21
Free and Saline Ammonia	0.0002
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.0002
Nitric Nitrogen (Nitrates)	0.72
Nitrous Nitrogen (Nitrites)	None
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 27°C (N/80 Permanganate)	None
Toxic Metals	None detected.
Residual chlorine on receipt	None.

Note. To convert the above parts per 100,000 to grains per gallon, multiply by 0.7

Bacteriological Examination.

Number of colonies developing upon Agar	
(a) In two days at 37°C	One per one ml.
(b) In three days at 22°C	One per one ml.
Coli-Aerogenes (presumptive coli) Count	Nil per 100 ml.

OPINION.

The sample is fit for drinking.

(Signed) M. M. LOVE.

County Analyst.

Date. 25th July, 1950.

2. Drainage, Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

No changes were made in these services during the year. The Disposal Works were kept under supervision and samples taken of the effluent proved to be satisfactory.

3. Smoke Abatement.

No action was taken in this matter during the year.

4. Swimming Baths.

The open air swimming bath in the Brine Baths Park was kept under supervision during the year. Samples of water were taken for analysis at frequent intervals during the summer.

5. Droitwich Canal.

The part of the canal which runs through Droitwich is still in a derelict condition. It is hoped that it will be possible to take some action with regard to this matter in the near future.

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

Good progress was made with the building of new houses during the year. Fifty four were erected by the Local Authority and twelve by other persons, with the result that a large number of people were rehoused.

Two tuberculous families were rehoused by the Local Authority during the year.

Demolition orders were placed on three unfit houses during the year.

The following table shows the housing work carried out during the year as follows :-

Number of new houses erected during the year.

(1)	By the Local Authority	54.
(2)	By other Local Authorities	NIL.
(3)	By other bodies or persons	12.

1. Inspection of dwelling houses during the year :-

(1)	(a)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	141.
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	159.
(2)	(a)	Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 & 1932.	55.
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	62.
(3)		Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	7.
(4)		Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.	91.

2. Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal notices.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers.	91.
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3. Action under statutory powers during the year.

(1)	Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 & 16 of the Housing Act 1936 :-	
(a)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	None.
(b)	Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :-	
	By owners.	None.
	By Local Authority in default of owners	None.

Continued -

- (2) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :-
- (a) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied None.
- (b) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :-
- By owners None.
- By Local Authority in default of owners None.
- (3) Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act 1936 :-
- (a) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which demolition orders were made Throe.
- (b) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders None.
- (4) Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act 1936 :-
- (a) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were made None.
- (b) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit None.

4. Housing Act 1936. Part IV. Overcrowding.

- (1) (a) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year No figures available.
- (b) Number of families dwelling therein "
- (c) Number of persons dwelling therein "
- (2) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year 1.
- (3) (a) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year 4.
- (b) Number of persons concerned in such cases 19.
- (c) Number of houses again overcrowded after being previously relieved None.

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD..

The work of inspection and supervision of food premises and food handlers was continued during the year.

Particular attention was given to the putting into operation of the new Food Byelaws which have been adopted by the Local Authority. Visits were made to all food shops in the town with the result that many improvements in conditions have been carried out.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

During the year 64 children completed a full course of immunisation and 16 children received a reinforcing dose.

Vaccination.

During the year 61 persons were vaccinated in the Borough and 29 were re-vaccinated.

Notifiable Diseases.

Particulars of cases of infectious diseases occurring during the year as shown in the following tables.

Disease.	Total Cases.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Scarlet Fever	12	11	NIL
Diphtheria	NIL	NIL	NIL
Measles	53	NIL	NIL
Whooping Cough	2	NIL	NIL
Erysipelas	2	NIL	NIL
Opthalmia Neonatorum	1	NIL	NIL
Primary Pneumonia	3	NIL	NIL
Cerebro Spinal Fever	1	1	NIL
Poliomyelitis	3	3	NIL

An analysis of the total notified cases are tabulated below according to age groups.

Age Group	Scarlet Fever.	Measles	Polio-myelitis	Erysi-pelas	Opth. Noen.	Whoop ing Cough	Prim. Pneum onia.	Corebro Spinal Fever.
Under 1 yr.	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	1
1-	1	7	-	-	-	1	-	-
2-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-
3-	5	11	-	-	-	-	1	-
4-	3	7	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-	2	8	1	-	-	1	-	-
10-	1	15	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-
35-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-
45-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 & over	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Totals.	12	53	3	2	1	2	3	1

Tuberculosis.

Particulars of new cases and deaths from tuberculosis are as follows :-

NEW CASES.					DEATHS.			
Age periods.	Respiratory		Non-respiratory		Respiratory		Non-respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
5	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
25	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 & over	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Totals	4	3	-	-	1	-	1	-

The number of cases of tuberculosis on the Register at the end of December 1946, 1947, 1948, 1949 and 1950 were as follows :-

	Pulmonary Cases.		Non-pulmonary Cases.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
1946	16	12	2	5
1947	16	10	2	5
1948	17	8	2	4
1949	20	10	2	4
1950	22	13	2	4

No action was taken in 1950 under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations 1925, (relating to persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis employed in the milk trade) or under Section 17 of the Public Health Act 1936, (relating to the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis).

I wish to express my thanks to members of the Council and to the Town Clerk and other Officers for their help and co-operation throughout the year.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

MARGARET C. FELL.

Medical Officer of Health.

Borough Surveyor's Department,
Town Hall,
DROITWICH.

August 1951.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Droitwich Town Council.

Your Worship, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit to you my sixth Annual Report which I have prepared upon the lines previously submitted.

I would once again thank you for your support during the year and the ready assistance of the Town Clerk, also the co-operation of the other officials and the loyal help of the staff of my Department.

On perusing the report it will be seen that 1950 was a year of solid work and progress on all sides and, while much remains to be done, particularly in the field of housing, one can but feel some satisfaction upon the work achieved.

Firstly, I beg to present a statement of visits and inspections made during the year :-

Visits of inspection to Stalls Farm Estate,			
Roundabouts and St. Peters Crescent Estates		106.	
" to direct labour and contract works	...	110.	
Inspections of new buildings under Building Byelaws	...	146.	
" re maintenance of highways	...	90.	
" re public water supply	...	14.	
" re factories including bakehouses	...	13.	
Visits re maintenance of Canal	...	17.	
Inspections of Food Shops	...	24.	
Visits to Council Houses re repairs	...	54.	
" re supervision of sewers, Sewage Works	...		
and Refuse Tip	...	55.	
" re supervision of Parks & Public Open Spaces	...	48.	
Samples taken for analysis, including milk, sewage,			
water, ice cream and swimming bath water	...	16.	
Number of houses inspected for housing defects	...	141.	
Miscellaneous visits not otherwise recorded	...	75.	
Inspection of private street works in course			
of making up	...	43.	

NEW HOUSING.

During the year 52 houses were completed at Stalls Farm Estate, 32 houses were in progress in December. On completion these houses will practically finish this Estate. A contract for the erection of twelve bungalows for aged persons was being prepared in December. A start had been made on the treatment of the grass islands and the asphaltting of the verges at the Stalls Farm Estate and this had resulted in a much improved appearance.

Two more houses were occupied at the Roundabouts Estate during the year thus completing this small Estate.

With the end of Stalls Farm Estate in sight your Council decided to proceed with the development of the St. Peters Crescent Estate. The construction of the roads and sewers were advertised for tender at the close of the year, and your Council had then decided to develop the Estate with non-traditional houses, contracts being offered to Messrs. Wates Ltd. and Messrs. Selleck Nicholls & Co. Ltd. for Cornish Unit houses.

Continued -

A small scheme of redevelopment was being prepared at the close of the year, which envisaged the demolition of the Old Vicarage property in Friar Street and the erection of eight Council houses on this site.

EXISTING HOUSING.

Four cases of overcrowding were abated during the year and fourteen families were rehoused from unfit dwellings.

Your Council, appreciating the vicious circle caused by the Council refraining from the demolition of insanitary houses, which after the tenants are rehoused become immediately re-tenanted, have in three instances taken appropriate action under the Housing Acts and placed demolition orders upon three cottages.

Minor repairs to houses have been carried out by landlords as a result of action taken by the Department.

The installation of electricity in the whole of your 218 pre-1940 Council houses was commenced.

LETTING OF COUNCIL HOUSES.

The letting of Council houses under the Points Scheme has continued and as a result of the watchful eye of your Housing Committee who are quick to amend anomalies, the scheme has worked reasonably well.

Three major variations to the Scheme have been made during the year :-

- (1) Greater priority has been given to applicants living in insanitary houses over those living in lodgings by the increase in points value given for the former and the reduction in the case of the latter.
- (2) The waiting period for each registration before the allocation of points has been reduced from two years to one year.
- (3) The proportion of houses allotted to Groups I and II was amended to 60:40.

The erection of Duplex Flats, whilst open to certain objections, mainly on account of noise from adjoining tenants, was completed and are serving a most useful purpose, some forty couples being rehoused who otherwise would have no hope of finding satisfactory accommodation.

Consideration will have to be given as to whether your Council propose to build further of these dwellings at some date in the future as, on examination of the waiting list, it is apparent that there are many applicants without children who, unless accommodation of this kind becomes available, will have no likelihood of obtaining accommodation in the foreseeable future.

FOOD INSPECTION.

Efforts have been made during the year to call the attention of all persons engaged in the distribution and supply of food to the need for cleanliness. To this end, Food Byelaws were adopted and a lecture and films have been presented to the public and the food trade in particular, by Dr. R.H. Henderson, the Director of the Public Health Laboratory at the Worcester Royal Infirmary.

RODENT CONTROL.

At the end of November a part-time Rodent Operator was appointed to deal with the numerous minor infestations in the Borough.

SCAVENGING AND PUBLIC CLEANSING.

This routine work has continued during the year, refuse being collected from all premises within the built-up area once per week, thrice weekly from hotels and monthly from outlying farms.

The limit of collection for one refuse vehicle and driver with three men has now been reached and as the town grows this service will require implementing.

Night soil is collected from thirteen premises once each week. Three premises with pail closets were converted to W.C.s. and connected to the public sewer.

Sanitary accommodation was provided to the Salvation Army Hall.

Street cleansing has continued as heretofore, the built-up area being swept weekly and the main thoroughfares daily.

The emptying of street gullies by contract has proceeded satisfactorily.

SAMPLING.

The following samples were taken for analysis during the year :-

Milk (Pasteurised)	...	...	1.
Milk (Ordinary)	...	...	1.
Ice Cream (8 by Local Authority)			
(17 by Manufacturers)	...		25.
Town Water	...	...	3.
Well Water	...	...	1.
Water from Swimming Pool	...	...	2 & 13 by owners.

HIGHWAYS.

A notable step forward was made during the year by the making up and adoption by your Council of the private streets of Alexander Avenue, Florence Avenue and the lower part of York Avenue. This leaves only one unmade road, Lyttelton Road South, in the Borough.

District roads generally have been satisfactorily maintained throughout the year.

The road levels at the foot of Yew Tree Hill in Newland Road were improved and the road channelled and drained, which has helped in maintaining the carriageway in better condition during wet periods.

Two sections of the Ninefootway off Ombersley Street were improved by surfacing with asphalt.

Your Council's tree planting programme was continued in Victoria Avenue, Princes Avenue, York Avenue, part of Oakland Avenue, Corbett Avenue, Nunnery Avenue and Stalls Farm Road with the planting of suitable flowering trees. This systematic replanting is generally giving great satisfaction to the townspeople and is commented upon most favourably by visitors.

The repair of footpaths in Tagwell Road, St. Marys Road, Corbett Avenue, York Avenue and part of Holloway Road was carried out and the construction of a new length of footpath along Holloway Road from St. Peters Rectory. Also the untidy gravel verge between the footpath flagging and the kerb was cleared and asphalted in King George Avenue and Oakland Avenue.

Continued -

An insanitary ditch in Oakland Avenue was cleaned out and partly piped in to a point further away from the houses.

SEWERS AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL WORKS.

These have been maintained satisfactorily during the year, periodic samples of the sewage effluent being taken.

WATER SUPPLY.

Water is purchased in bulk from the East Worcestershire Waterworks Company and it has been maintained satisfactorily in quantity and quality:-

Consumption during 1950 was 115,511,000 gallons averaging 316,500 gallons per day as compared with 113,374,000 gallons averaging 310,600 gallons per day for 1949.

This is a marked increase and in November a part-time Water Inspector was appointed to inspect all water fittings in the Borough and prevent wastage.

PARKS AND OPEN SPACES.

These have been maintained in as satisfactory a condition as is possible with the labour available. Certain derelict plots of land have been cleared and planted with flowers, notably the corner of Worcester Road and Old Coach Road and the island in Colman Road.

Plans for the seeding down of Covercroft were being prepared at the close of the year and also for the construction of a Bowling Green in Ricketts Lane.

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT.

This has been disappointing as though numerous applicants for sites for factories have been received, to date since purchasing land for this development none of the applicants have been able to obtain licences to build.

DROITWICH CANAL.

Two wooden bridges which had proved a continuous source of expense, the one at Chawson and the other in Vines Park, were demolished and rebuilt in steel and concrete.

Your Consulting Engineer, Mr. A.H.S. Waters, is preparing a scheme for the abandonment of the Canal and the improvement of the Canal Basin in Vines Park.

I am, Sir, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

GRAHAM L. ROBINSON.

Chartered Municipal Engineer.
Borough Engineer & Surveyor.

The first part of the paper is devoted to a general discussion of the problem.

1. Introduction

The purpose of this paper is to study the properties of the function $f(x)$ defined by the equation

$$f(x) = \int_0^x f(t) dt$$

where $f(x)$ is a continuous function on the interval $[0, 1]$ and $f(0) = 1$.

It is well known that the function $f(x)$ is unique and that it satisfies the differential equation

$f'(x) = f(x)$ with the initial condition $f(0) = 1$. The solution of this equation is the exponential function $f(x) = e^x$.

2. Properties of the function

In this section we shall study the properties of the function $f(x)$ on the interval $[0, 1]$. We shall show that $f(x)$ is increasing and concave down on this interval.

First, we shall show that $f(x)$ is increasing. Let $x_1 < x_2$ be two points in the interval $[0, 1]$. Then

$$f(x_2) - f(x_1) = \int_{x_1}^{x_2} f(t) dt > 0$$

since $f(t) > 0$ for all t in $[0, 1]$. Therefore, $f(x)$ is increasing on $[0, 1]$.

3. Conclusion

In conclusion, we have shown that the function $f(x)$ defined by the equation $f(x) = \int_0^x f(t) dt$ is the exponential function $f(x) = e^x$.

This result is important because it shows that the function $f(x)$ is unique and that it satisfies the differential equation $f'(x) = f(x)$.

References

[1] A. I. Markushevich, *Calculus*, Moscow, 1965.

[2] I. V. Krasovskiy, *Calculus*, Moscow, 1965.

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